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vote much space to the clarification of many debated and unsettled problems of statistical method.

M. Ricci's work is a contribution of immense value not only to those interested in international statistics of agriculture but also to those who are concerned with agriculture in any country, for in discussing questions of uniformity the author incidentally hacks through many a Gordian knot that has puzzled agricultural statisticians for years. Such problems as the proper distinction between productive and unproductive land or the proper handling of an area yielding more than one kind of crop during a year, simultaneously or consecutively, are discussed in a thorough and illuminating manner. The actual practice of the principal countries is described and suggestions as to desirable modifications are numerous and valuable. A complete and logical classification of crops is worked out in detail. A program for adoption by the different countries in regard to statistics of acreage and production is presented in chapter 14.

Chapters 15 to 27 discuss statistics of crop condition, chapter 27 presenting a program of action. The author prefers the method of actual estimates, expressed in percentages of a decennial average, to a method of classification of conditions as good, medium, and bad. He suggests that such estimates be collected on the first of each month of the growing season in order that the International Institute be enabled to publish them by the middle of each month.

E. A. GOLDENWEISER.

Washington, D. C.

#### NEW BOOKS

CULLIMORE, A. R. *The use of the slide rule.* (New York: Keuffel & Esser Co. 1915. 50c.)

DIENER, R. *Das Problem der Arbeitspreisstatistik und seine Lösung mit Hilfe von Berufsterblichkeits- und Lohnstatistik.* (Munich: Duncker & Humblot. 1915. Pp. 184. 2.50 M.)

KEYNES, J. M. *Principles of probability.* (New York: Macmillan. 1915.)

MACNUTT, J. S. *A manual for health officers.* (New York: Wiley. 1915. \$3.)

Contains a chapter on vital statistics.

STAMP, J. C. *British incomes and property. The application of official statistics to economic problems.* (London: King. 1915.)

*The Canada year book, 1914.* (Ottawa: Minister of Trade. 1915. Pp. 698.)